



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/633,287

08/01/2003

Kenji Yamane

112857-418

3340

29175 7590 11/26/2008
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLP
P. O. BOX 1135
CHICAGO, IL 60690

EXAMINER

BANTAMOI, ANTHONY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2423

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/26/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/633,287	Applicant(s) YAMANE, KENJI	
	Examiner ANTHONY BANTAMOI	Art Unit 2423	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/04/2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu et al U.S. Patent Application 2002/0162111 in view of Buddhikot et al US Patent 7,085,843, in view of Perlman et al US Patent 5,583,576 (hereafter referenced as Shimizu, Buddhikot and Perlman).

Regarding claim 3, Shimizu teaches a receiving unit to receive information from the transmission devise, which reads on "receiving means for receiving a content from another information processing apparatus" (claim 2, lines 5-6: Shimizu teaches a reading unit for reading out image data stored in first and second storage, which reads on "detection means for detecting a tile being displayed in the content" (claim 2, lines

Art Unit: 2423

11-12: Shimizu teaches a first and second storage for storing first and second data respectively, which reads on “holding means for holding information of the tile detected by the detection means” (claim 2, lines 7-10: Shimizu teaches a transmitting device to transmit data to the receiving device, which reads on “and transmission means for transmitting the information of the tile held by the holding means to the another information processing apparatus” (claim 2. lines 3-6).

Shimizu is silent about wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Buddhikot teaches a cache method which ranks clips according to the popularity of the clip, which reads on “wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile” (column 11, 6-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Shimizu to include wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile as taught by Buddhikot in order to create more storage for highly requested clips.

Shimizu and Buddhikot are silent about the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Perlman teaches a memory for storing rating data associated with the each program received at the receiver which meets “the ranking having a predetermined associated content” (column 6, 15-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu and Buddhikot to include

Art Unit: 2423

the ranking having a predetermined associated content as taught by Perlman in order to enforce parental control of television programs.

Regarding claim 4, Shimizu teaches a receiving unit to receive information from the transmission devise, which reads on “a receiving step of receiving a content from the another information processing apparatus” (claim 2, lines 5-6: Shimizu teaches a reading unit for reading out image data stored in first and second storage, which reads on “a detection step of detecting a tile being displayed in the content” (claim 2, lines 11-12: Shimizu teaches a first and second storage for storing first and second data respectively, which reads on “a holding step of holding information of the tile detected by the process of the detection step” (claim 2, lines 7-10: Shimizu teaches a transmitting device to transmit data to the receiving device, which reads on “and a transmission step of transmitting the information of the tile held by the process of the holding step to the another information processing apparatus” (claim 2. lines 3-6).

Shimizu is silent about wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Buddhikot teaches a cache method which ranks clips according to the popularity of the clip, which reads on “wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile” (column 11, 6-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Shimizu to include wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile as taught by Buddhikot in order to create more storage for highly requested clips.

Art Unit: 2423

Shimizu and Buddhikot are silent about the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Perlman teaches a memory for storing rating data associated with the each program received at the receiver which meets "the ranking having a predetermined associated content" (column 6, 15-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Shimizu and Buddhikot to include the ranking having a predetermined associated content as taught by Perlman in order to enforce parental control of television programs.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 7-12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu in view of Fujiwara US Patent 6,992,788, in view of Buddhikot, in view of Perlman (hereinafter referenced as Fujiwara).

Regarding claim 1, Shimizu teaches a data receiving unit for receiving the first data transmitted from the transmitting device, which reads on "a first information processing apparatus for receiving a first content" (claim 1, lines 16-17: Shimizu teaches a transmitting unit for transmitting the first data to the receiving unit, which

Art Unit: 2423

reads on “a second information processing apparatus for transmitting the first content to the first information processing apparatus” (claim 1, lines 11-12: Shimizu teaches a communication terminal (figure 10, item 2) which consists of a data receiving means(21) to receive the first data from the transmitting unit (figure 10, item 11), which reads on “receiving means for receiving the first content from the second information processing apparatus” (figure 10: Shimizu discloses a selection means to select the first data content in response to request for transmission, which reads on “first acquisition means for acquiring the first content” (claim 1, lines 8-10: Shimizu teaches a control unit (12) that extracts data from memory content, which reads on “second acquisition means for acquiring a second content” (Para. 0028: Shimizu teaches a transmitting means that transmits the first and second data to the receiver device, which reads on “and second transmission means for transmitting a resultant content obtained by combining the second content with the first content by the synthesis means, to the first information processing apparatus” (claim 1, lines 11-12).

Shimizu is silent about a synthesis step of combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles, wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Fujiwara teaches a combiner means for combining compressed scaled picture data from several nodes of a video transmission, which reads on “synthesis means for combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles” (column 8, lines 37-39) and is exhibited in figure 3.

Therefore, the examiner maintains that it would have been obvious for one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shimizu by specifically providing a synthesis means as taught by Fujiwara for the purpose of reducing transmission delays as well as conserving bandwidth.

Shimizu and Fujiwara are silent about wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile; the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Buddhikot teaches a cache system configured to ranks clips according to the popularity of the clip, which reads on “wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile” (column 11, 6-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu and Fujiwara to include wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile as taught by Buddhikot in order to create more storage for highly requested clips.

Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot are silent about the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Perlman teaches a memory for storing rating data associated with the each program received at the receiver which meets “the ranking having a predetermined associated content” (column 6, 15-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot to include the ranking having a predetermined associated content as taught by Perlman in order to enforce parental control of television programs.

Art Unit: 2423

Regarding claim 2, Shimizu teaches a data receiving unit for receiving the first data transmitted from the transmitting device, which reads on a first information processing apparatus for receiving a first content” (claim 1, lines 16-17: Shimizu teaches a transmitting unit for transmitting the first data to the receiving unit, which reads on “a second information processing apparatus for transmitting the first content to the first information processing apparatus” (claim 1, lines 11-12: Shimizu teaches a communication terminal (figure 10, item 2) which consists of a data receiving means(21) to receive the first data from the transmitting unit (figure 10, item 11), which reads on “a receiving step of receiving the first content from the second information processing apparatus” (figure 10: Shimizu discloses a selection means to select the first data content in response to request for transmission, which reads on “a first acquisition step of acquiring the first content” (claim 1, lines 8-10: Shimizu teaches a control unit (12) that extracts data from memory content, which reads on “a second acquisition step of acquiring a second content” (Para. 0028: Shimizu teaches a transmitting means that transmits the first and second data to the receiver device, which reads on “and a second transmission step of transmitting a resultant content obtained by combining the second content with the first content by the process of the synthesis step, to the first information processing apparatus” (claim 1, lines 11-12).

Shimizu is silent about a synthesis step of combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles, wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Art Unit: 2423

Fujiwara teaches a combiner means for combining compressed scaled picture data from several nodes of a video transmission, which reads on “synthesis means for combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles” (column 8, lines 37-39 & figure 3).

Therefore, the examiner maintains that it would have been obvious for one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shimizu by specifically providing a synthesis means as taught by Fujiwara for the purpose of reducing transmission delays as well as conserving bandwidth.

Shimizu and Fujiwara are silent about wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile; the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Buddhikot teaches a cache system configured to ranks clips according to the popularity of the clip, which reads on “wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile” (column 11, 6-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu and Fujiwara to include wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile as taught by Buddhikot in order to create more storage for highly requested clips.

Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot are silent about the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Perlman teaches a memory for storing rating data associated with the each program received at the receiver which meets “the ranking having a predetermined associated content” (column 6, 15-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot to include the ranking having a predetermined associated content as taught by Perlman in order to enforce parental control of television programs.

Claim 5 is the software that performs the method of claim 4. Thus claim 5 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 4.

Regarding claim 7, Shimizu teaches a selection means to select the first data content in response to request for transmission, which reads on “first acquisition means for acquiring the first content” (claim 1, lines 8-10: Shimizu teaches a control unit (12) that extracts data from memory content, which reads on “second acquisition means for acquiring a second content” (Para. 0028: Shimizu teaches a transmitting means that transmits the first and second data to the receiver device, which reads on “and second transmission means for transmitting a resultant content obtained by combining the second content with the first content by the synthesis means, to the first information processing apparatus” (claim 1, lines 11-12).

Shimizu is silent about a synthesis step of combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles, wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Fujiwara teaches a combiner means for combining compressed scaled picture data from several nodes of a video transmission, which reads on “synthesis means for combining the second content with the first content in units of tiles” (column 8, lines 37-39 & figure 3).

Art Unit: 2423

Therefore, the examiner maintains that it would have been obvious for one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shimizu by specifically providing a synthesis means as taught by Fujiwara for the purpose of shortening transmission delays.

Shimizu and Fujiwara do not disclose wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile, the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Buddhikot teaches a cache system configured to ranks clips according to the popularity of the clip, which reads on “wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile” (column 11, 6-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu and Fujiwara to include wherein a ranking and popularity are associated with each tile as taught by Buddhikot in order to create more storage for highly requested clips.

Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot are silent about the ranking having a predetermined associated content.

Perlman teaches a memory for storing rating data associated with the each program received at the receiver which meets “the ranking having a predetermined associated content” (column 6, 15-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu, Fujiwara and Buddhikot to include the ranking having a predetermined associated content as taught by Perlman in order to enforce parental control of television programs.

Art Unit: 2423

Regarding claim 8, Shimizu teaches a display indicating that the second data is being displayed, which reads on “receiving means for receiving information of a tile being displayed by the another information processing apparatus, from the another information processing apparatus” (claim 21, lines 3-4: Shimizu discloses a selection means for selecting whether the second data can be read or not, which reads on “selection means for selecting the second content to be combined with the first content, according to the information of the tile, received by the receiving means” (claim 11).

Shimizu is silent about a synthesis means for combining the first content with the second content.

Fujiwara teaches a combiner means for combining compressed scaled picture data from several nodes of a video transmission, which reads on “wherein the synthesis means combines the second content selected by the selection means with the first content” (column 8, lines 37-39 & figure 3).

Therefore, the examiner maintains that it would have been obvious for one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu by specifically providing a synthesis means as taught by Fujiwara for the purpose of shortening transmission delays.

Regarding claim 9, Shimizu teaches a data storage for storing first and second data, which reads on “further comprising holding means for holding information of a specific tile specified in advance among tiles” (claim 2, lines 7-10).

Art Unit: 2423

Shimizu is silent about a synthesis means for combining the first content with the second content but Fujiwara teaches a combiner means for combining compressed scaled picture data from several nodes of a video transmission, which reads on “where in the synthesis means replaces a part of the first content, corresponding to the specific tile with the second content” (column 8, lines 37-39 & figure 3).

Therefore, the examiner maintains that it would have been obvious for one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Shimizu by specifically providing a synthesis means as taught by Fujiwara for the purpose of shortening transmission delays.

Regarding claim 10, Shimizu teaches a control unit for performing control such that the reading or detection unit reads out data from first or second storage on the level or amount of first data available in first storage, which reads on “ further comprising calculating means for calculating the popularity of the specific tile according to the information of the tile” (claim 13, lines 16-19: Shimizu teaches a selection unit for selecting whether the second data content can be read or not, which reads on” wherein the selection means selects the second content according to the popularity” (claim 11, lines 3-4).

Claim 11 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 12 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 7.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANTHONY BANTAMOI whose telephone number is (571)270-3581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Koenig can be reached on (571) 272 7296. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anthony Bantamoi
Examiner
Art Unit 2623

/Anthony Bantamoi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2623

/Andrew Y Koenig/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2423